

Committee
IC-75-1158
28 March 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: C/MPRRD

SUBJECT: Contingency Planning Subgroup Under the
IRAC Working Group

1. The recent flaps in which we have recently been involved (the Turkey paper and the Thailand paper) have pointed to the need for an inter-agency support mechanism if the IC Staff is to be fully responsive to the DCI's needs for National Foreign Intelligence contingency planning on a country or regional basis. I use the term contingency planning in the sense of potential alterations in our collection posture which result from changes in base rights or alterations in U.S. national policy which involve a major change in collection requirements and intelligence support. Such planning should include identification of country/regional assets, their targeting, value, the manpower and capital investment involved, as well as alternative collection postures. We need a better mechanism to accomplish such planning and to inject the implications into the annual National Foreign Intelligence Program proposal. I believe the establishment of a Contingency Planning Subgroup under the IRAC Working Group could provide the needed mechanism. What I have in mind is an inter-dependent system which would operate as follows.

a. The NIOs would be given explicit responsibility for monitoring contingency planning at the Inter-departmental Group levels in the NSC as a part of the general responsibility to provide interface with national-level users of intelligence support. The NIOs would provide continuing review of all plans submitted to the Contingency Planning Working Group and would direct specific plans to the IRAC Working Group if it appears that Intelligence Community collection could or should be significantly affected by the subject contingency.

b. The Contingency Planning Subgroup under the IRAC Working Group would be headed by CPAD or the Deputy for Planning who would provide the management

and coordination activities required to perform the contingency planning function. This would involve the following:

(1) Tasking of USIB committees as appropriate for the identification of in-country intelligence assets involved in any given contingency, their targets, and alternative collection which may be required under the contingency involved.

(2) Elicitation from the NIOs the estimates of the substantive value of the identified intelligence assets to the needs of production using the above USIB inputs.

(3) Identifying the manpower and capital investment associated with in-country intelligence assets and the investment, manpower, and O&M costs associated with alternatives for dealing with the specific contingency involved.

2. The mechanism proposed would couple contingency planning for the Intelligence Community management to the contingency planning of the NSC and could provide systematic, comprehensive support to the DCI by enabling him to better represent the interests of the Intelligence Community in national-level contingency planning.

3. I know that you have shared my concern about contingency planning in the Intelligence Community, and I would value your thoughts on this approach.

25X1A9a

AC/CPAD

Distribution:

Orig. - Addressee
1 - CPAD Subject
1 - CPAD Chrono
1 - IC Registry